

MARVEL

17

LGY#182

ABSOLUTE CARNAGE

TIE-IN

DONNY CATES
IBAN COELLO
RAIN BEREDO

VENOM



DISGRACED REPORTER EDDIE BROCK STUMBLED UPON
AN AGGRESSIVE ALIEN ORGANISM CALLED A SYMBIOTE
DURING ONE OF THE LOWEST POINTS OF HIS LIFE. THE
TWO WERE JOINED AND USED THEIR COMBINED LUST
FOR VIOLENCE TO MAKE THEIR CITY SAFER AS THE
LETHAL PROTECTOR...

VENOM

YEARS AGO, THE OFFSPRING OF THE VENOM SYMBIOTE BONDED
WITH THE SERIAL KILLER CLETUS KASADY, CREATING VENOM'S
GREATEST FOE: CARNAGE.

BUT THE SYMBIOTE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WITH A CHILD; EDDIE NOW
HAS A SON NAMED DYLAN.

DONNY CATES WRITER IBAN COELLO ARTIST

RAIN BEREDO COLOR ARTIST VC's CLAYTON COWLES LETTERER

KYLE HOTZ & DAN BROWN COVER ARTISTS

DAVE JOHNSON [CODEX]; LEE GARBETT [MARVEL 80TH FRAME]; SUNGHAN YUNE [BRING ON THE BAD GUYS!]
VARIANT COVER ARTISTS

DANNY KHAZEM ASSISTANT EDITOR DEVIN LEWIS EDITOR NICK LOWE EXECUTIVE EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER



MY NAME
IS EDDIE
BROCK.

OUR NAME
IS VENOM.

AND THIS IS
THE DAY THAT
WE DIE.

CARNAGE IS BACK.

POWERED UP BY KNULL'S DRAGON SYMBIOTE.

THE GRENDEL.

NOW HE'S HUNTING DOWN EVERYONE WHO'S EVER WORN A SYMBIOTE.

SPIDER-MAN AND I, WE CAME TO RAVENCROFT TO SAVE NORMAN OSBORN.

CLETUS SAW US COMING...TURNED THE INMATES INTO THESE...MONSTERS.

CAN STILL FEEL CLETUS DOWN THE HALL...CRAWLING AROUND IN MY BRAIN.

LAUGHING AS MY BONES BREAK.

I DON'T THINK WE'RE MAKING IT OUT OF THIS ONE.

AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT.

I THINK ABOUT THE PATH I'VE WALKED. THAT WE'VE WALKED.

HOW IT'S ALL LED TO THIS. DROWNING IN RED.

SWALLOWED BY THIS EVIL I CREATED.

AND I THINK ABOUT REGRETS.

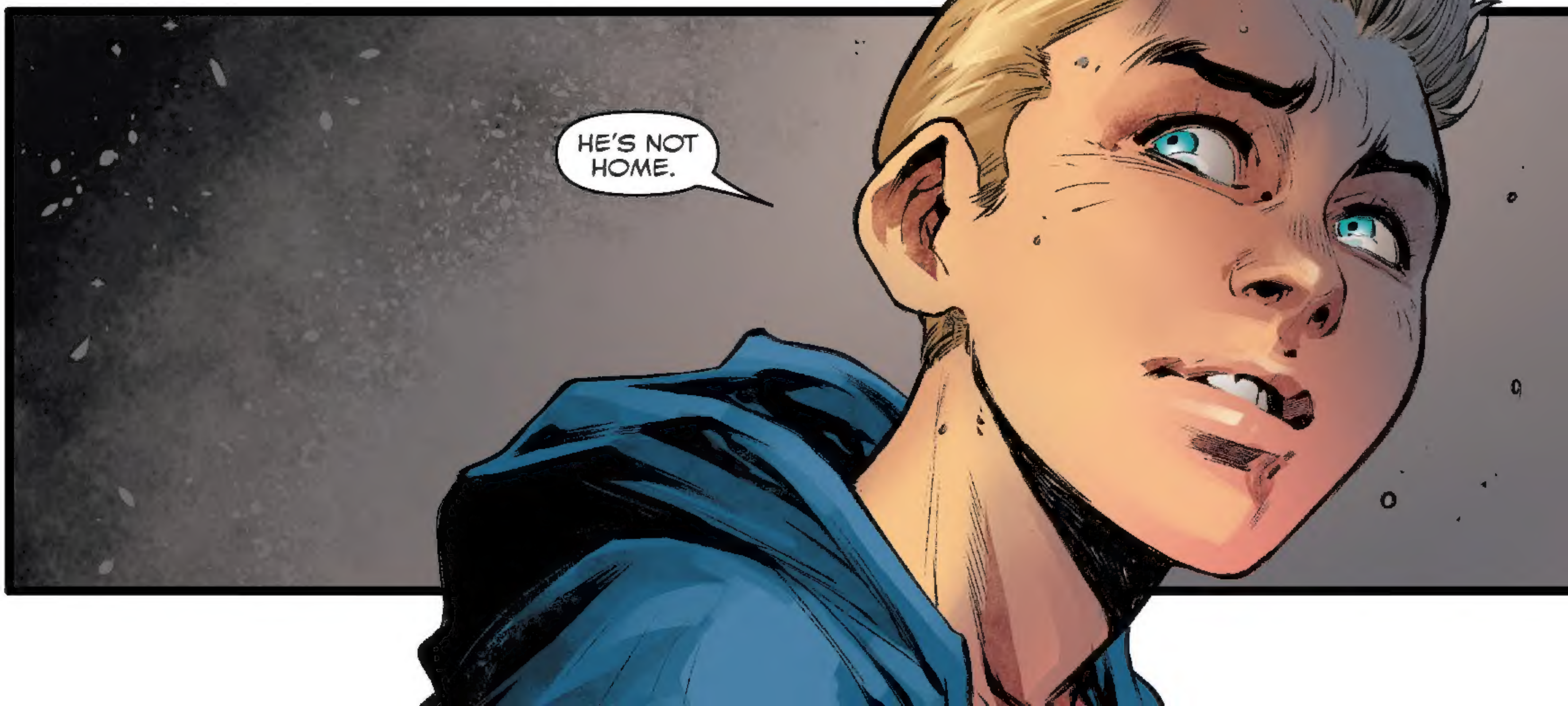
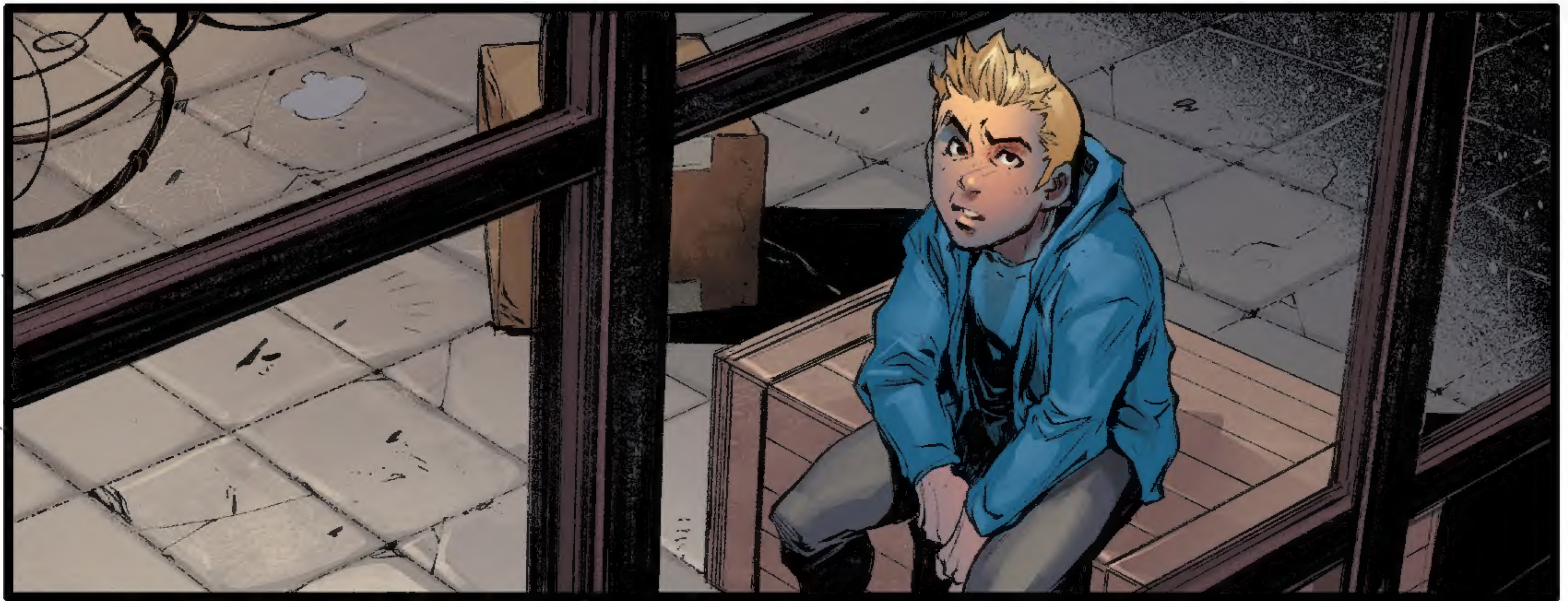
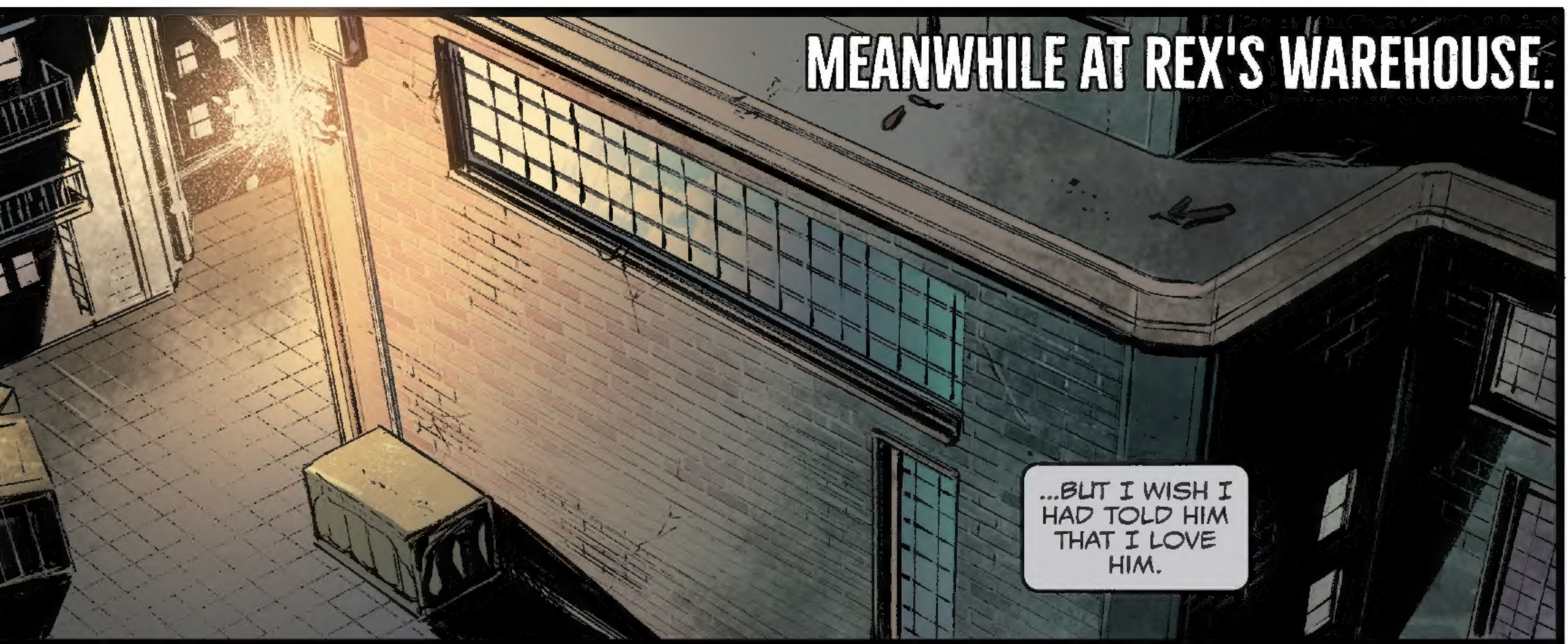
ABOUT MY FATHER. ABOUT ANNE.

AND I THINK ABOUT MY SON.

HOW HE'LL NEVER KNOW THAT I WAS HIS FATHER.

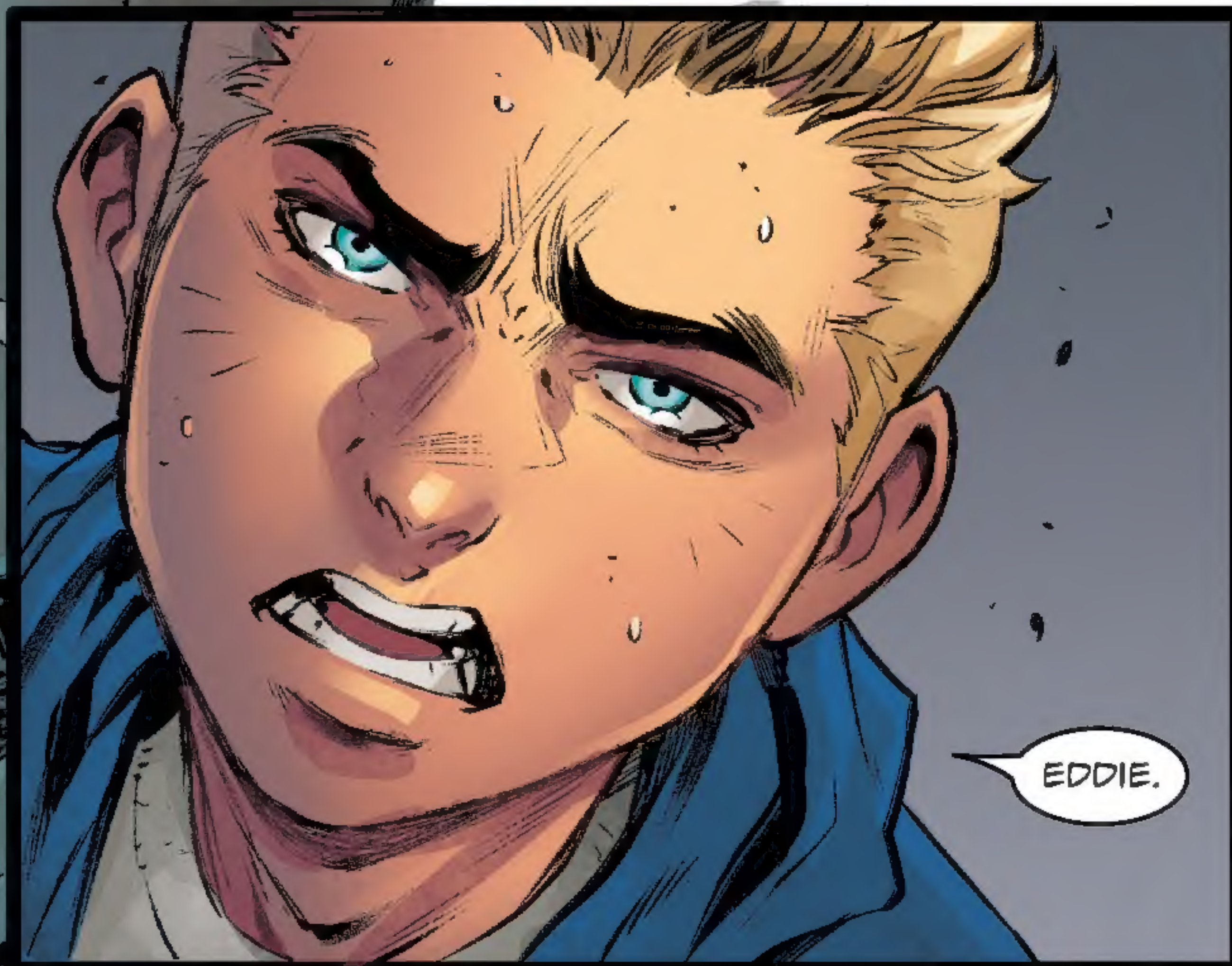
MAYBE THAT'S FOR THE BEST...

PETE'S FADING FAST. I CAN FEEL HIM SLOWING DOWN.

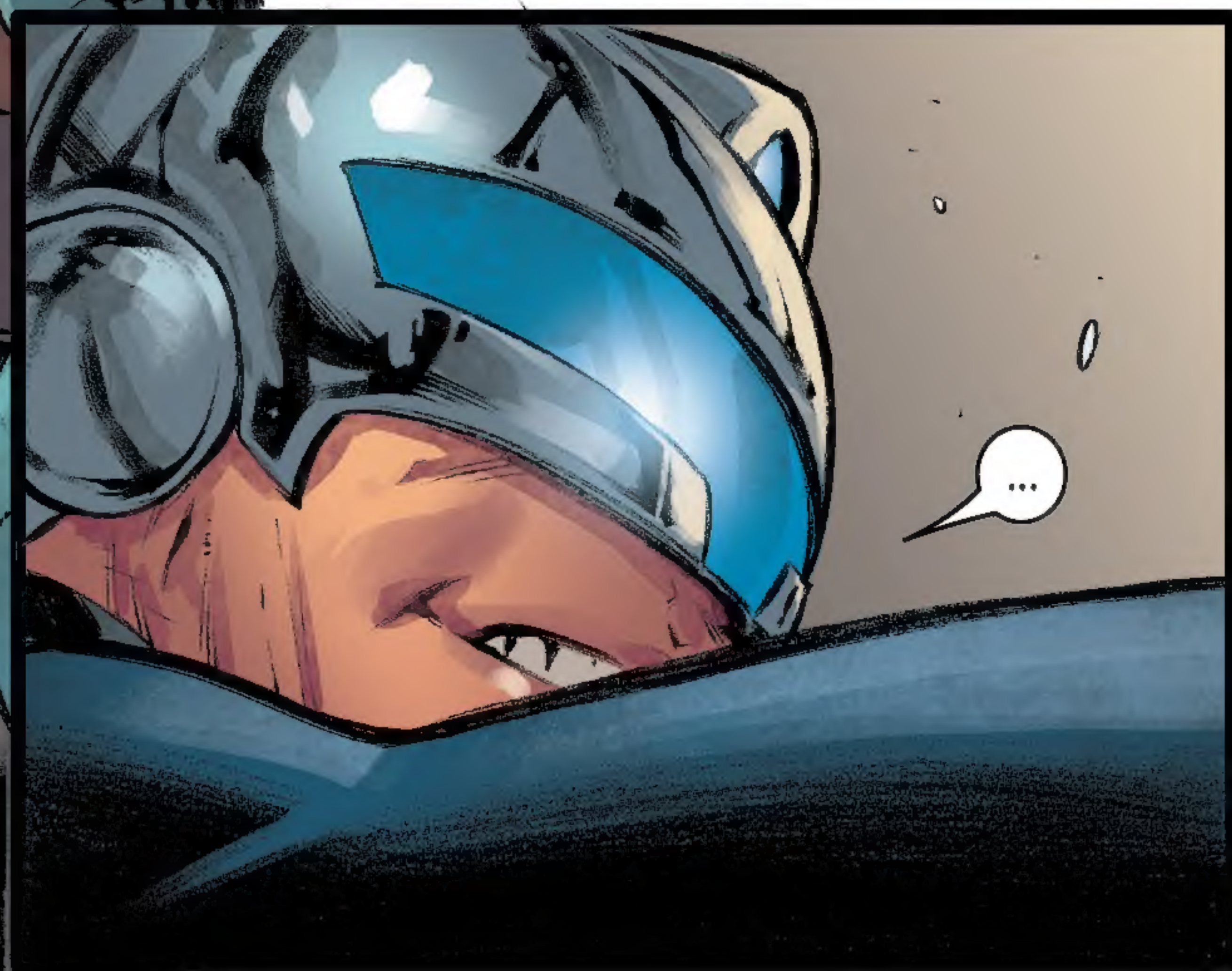




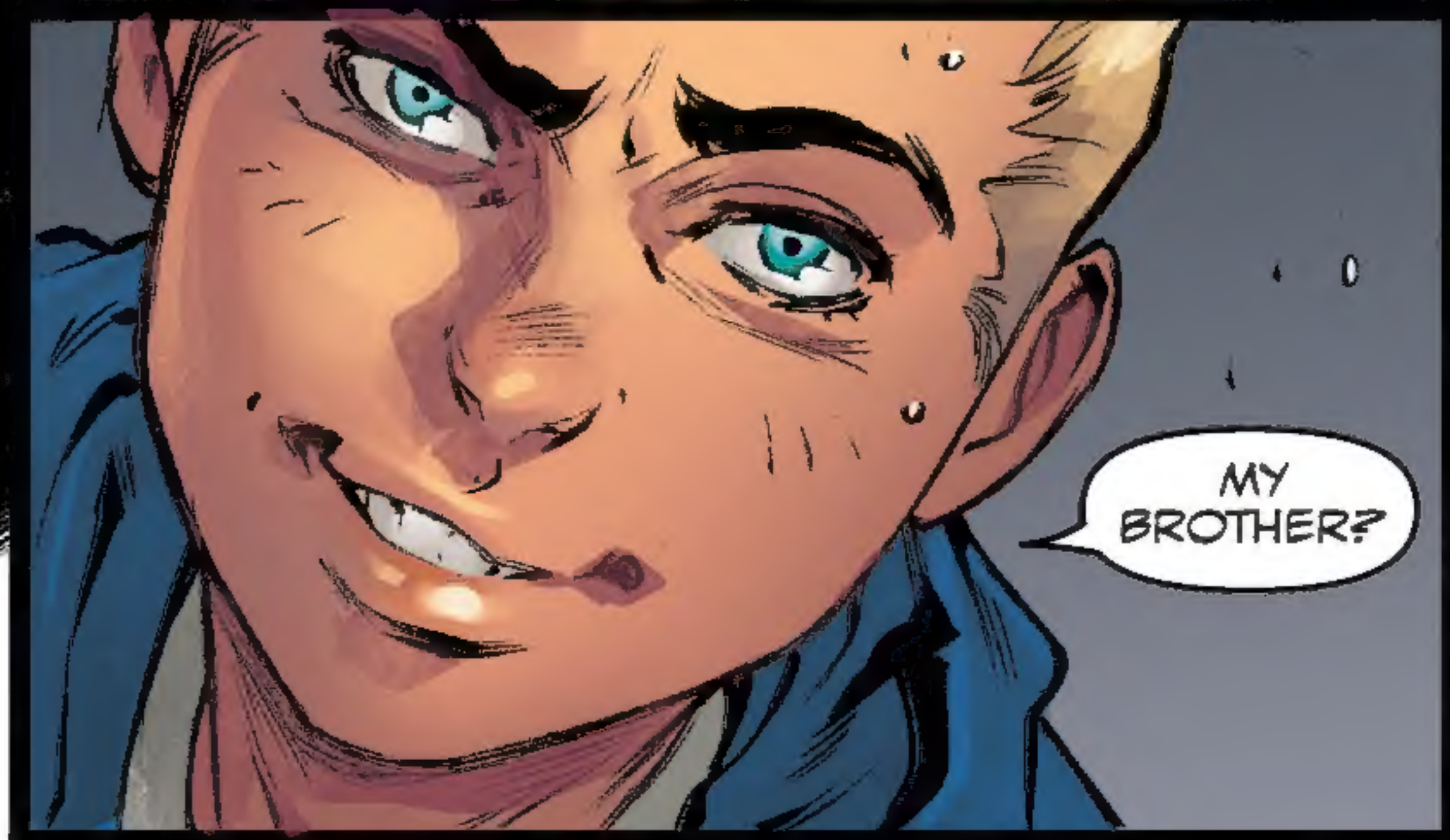
Who?



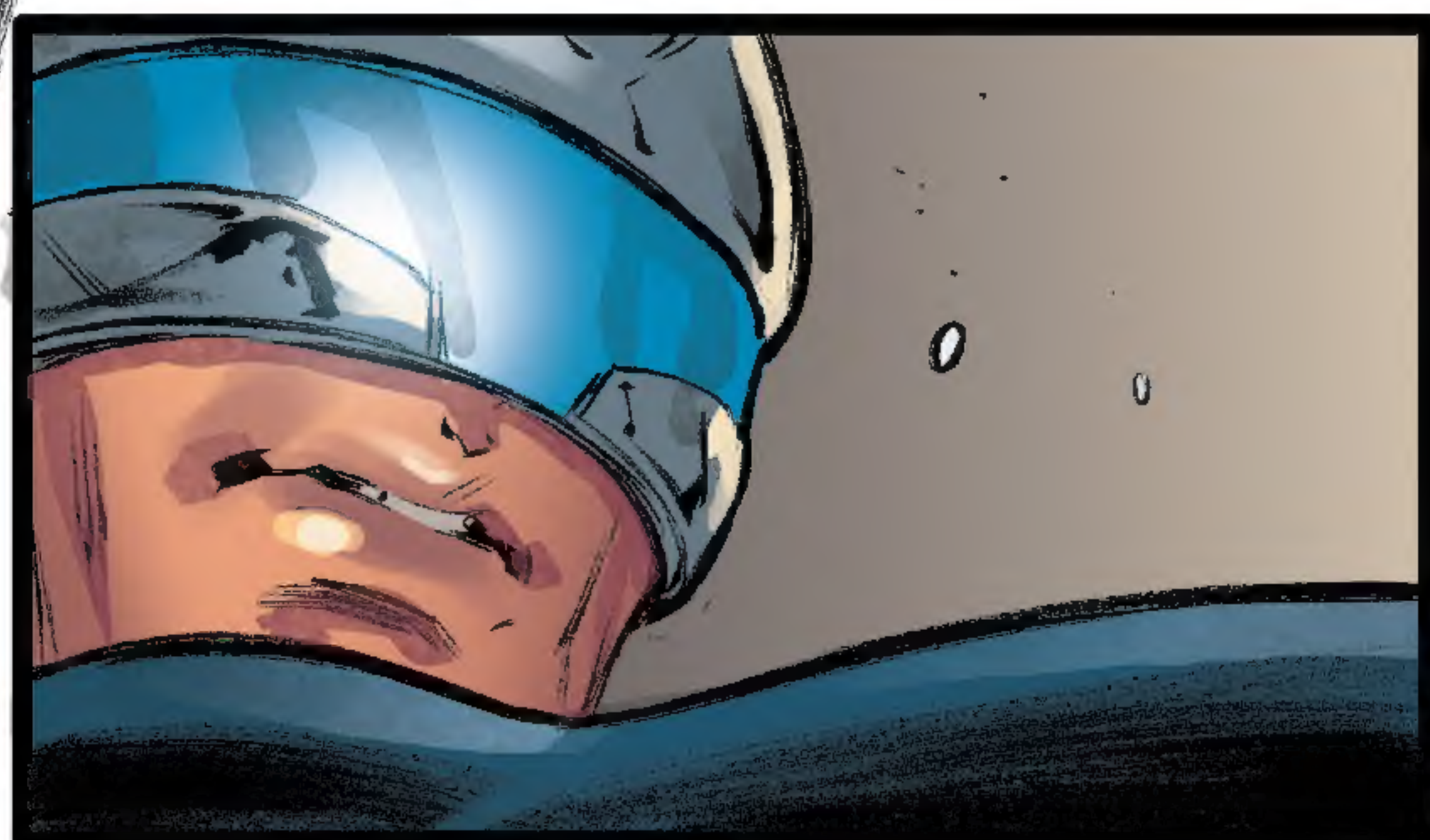
EDDIE.



...



MY
BROTHER?



VENOM?



Ah,
yes.

I'm sure
he will be
fine.



WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
HIM?

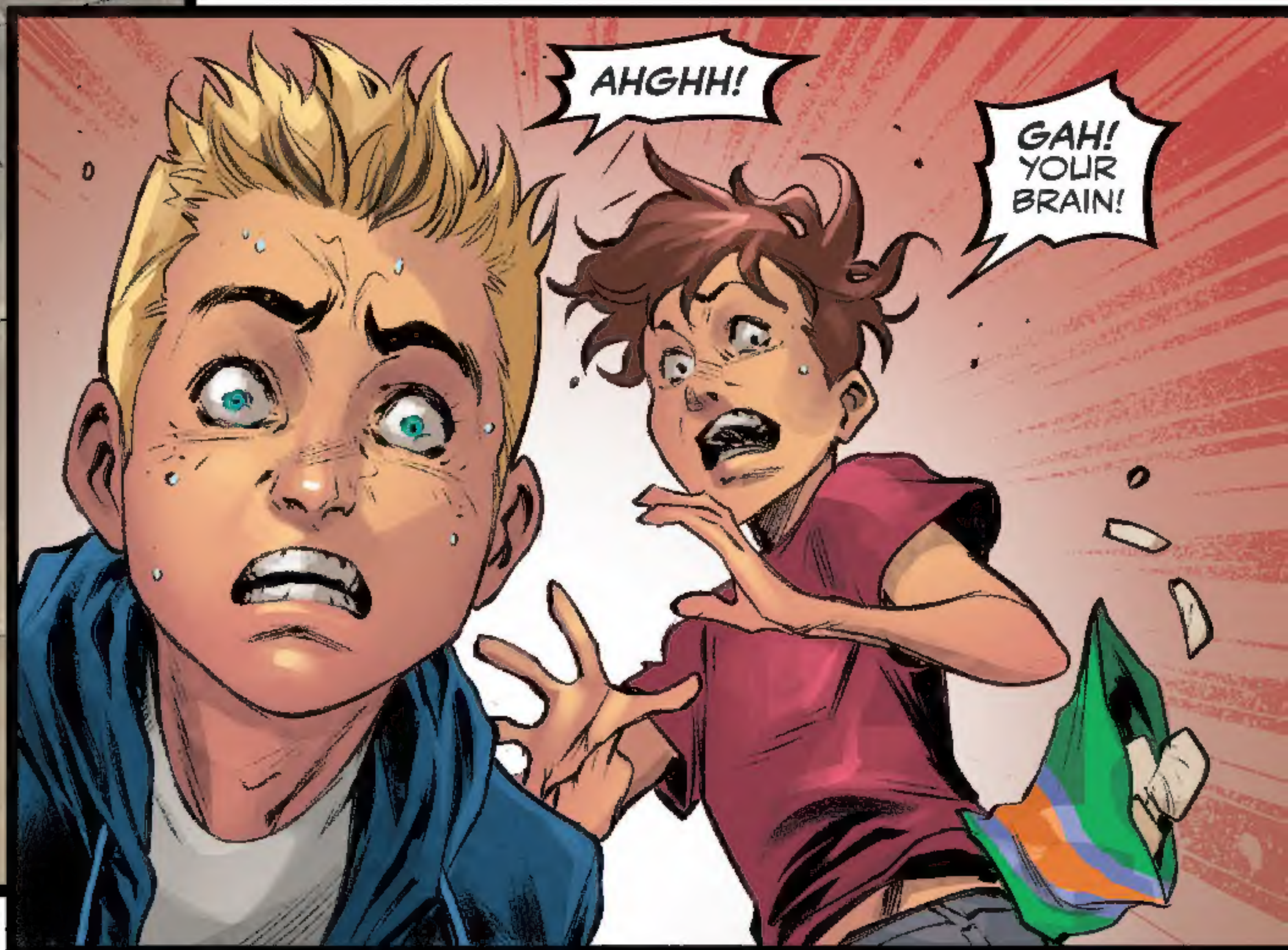
NO
@#&\$%&#
CLUE.

YOU
CURSED. I'M
TELLING.

YEAH,
YOU WOULD,
SPIDER-
BABY.



Aha! The
machine is all
done and ready
to--

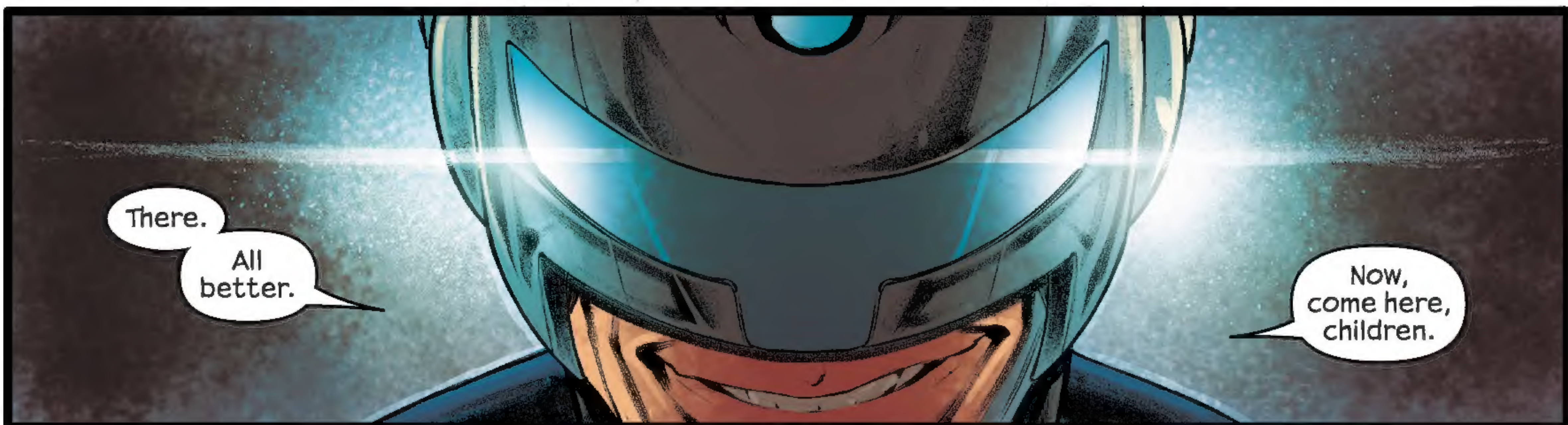


AHGH!

GAH!
YOUR
BRAIN!

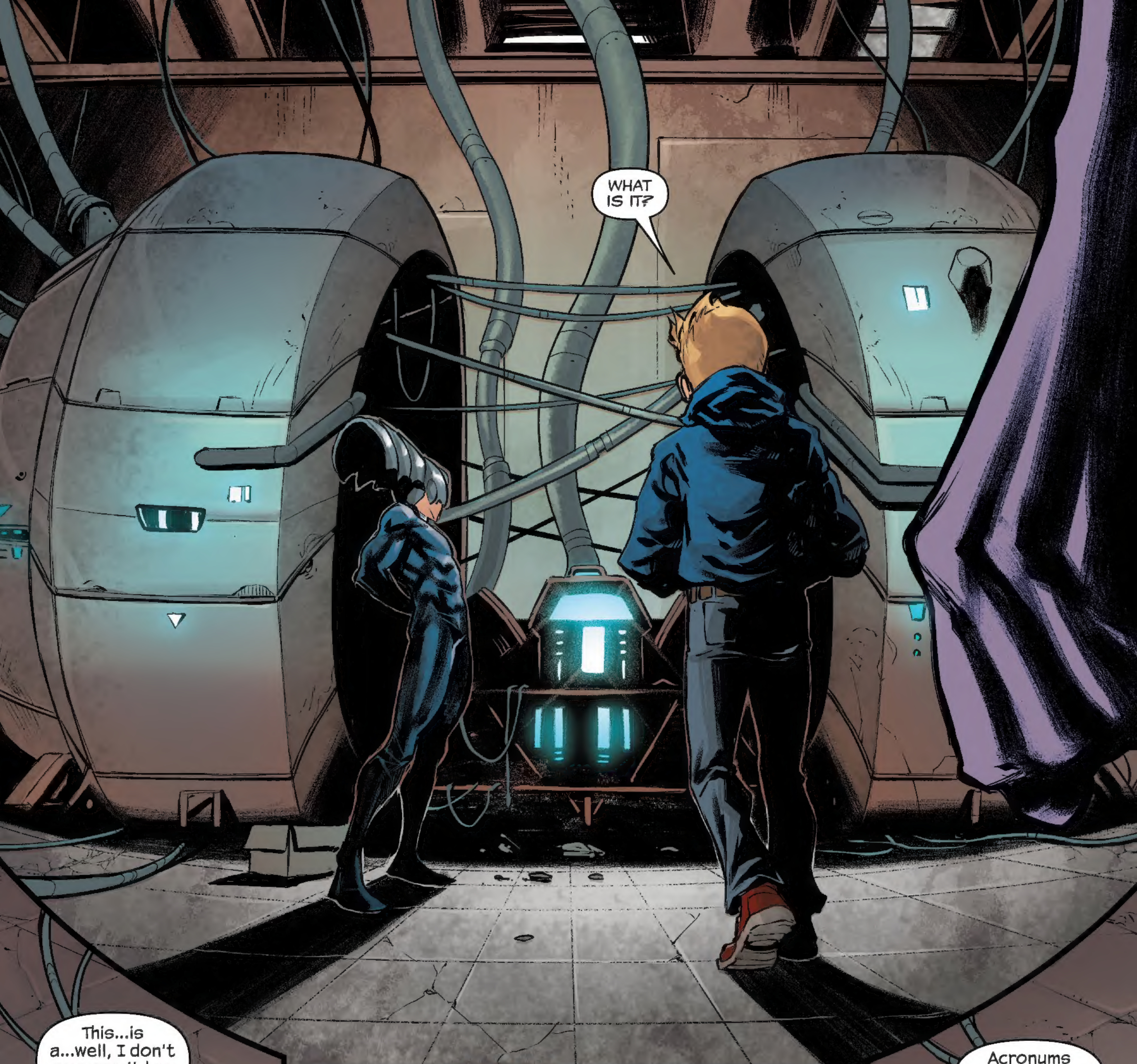


sigh
Yes, yes.
My...cranial...
augmentations must
seem frightening to
young eyes.



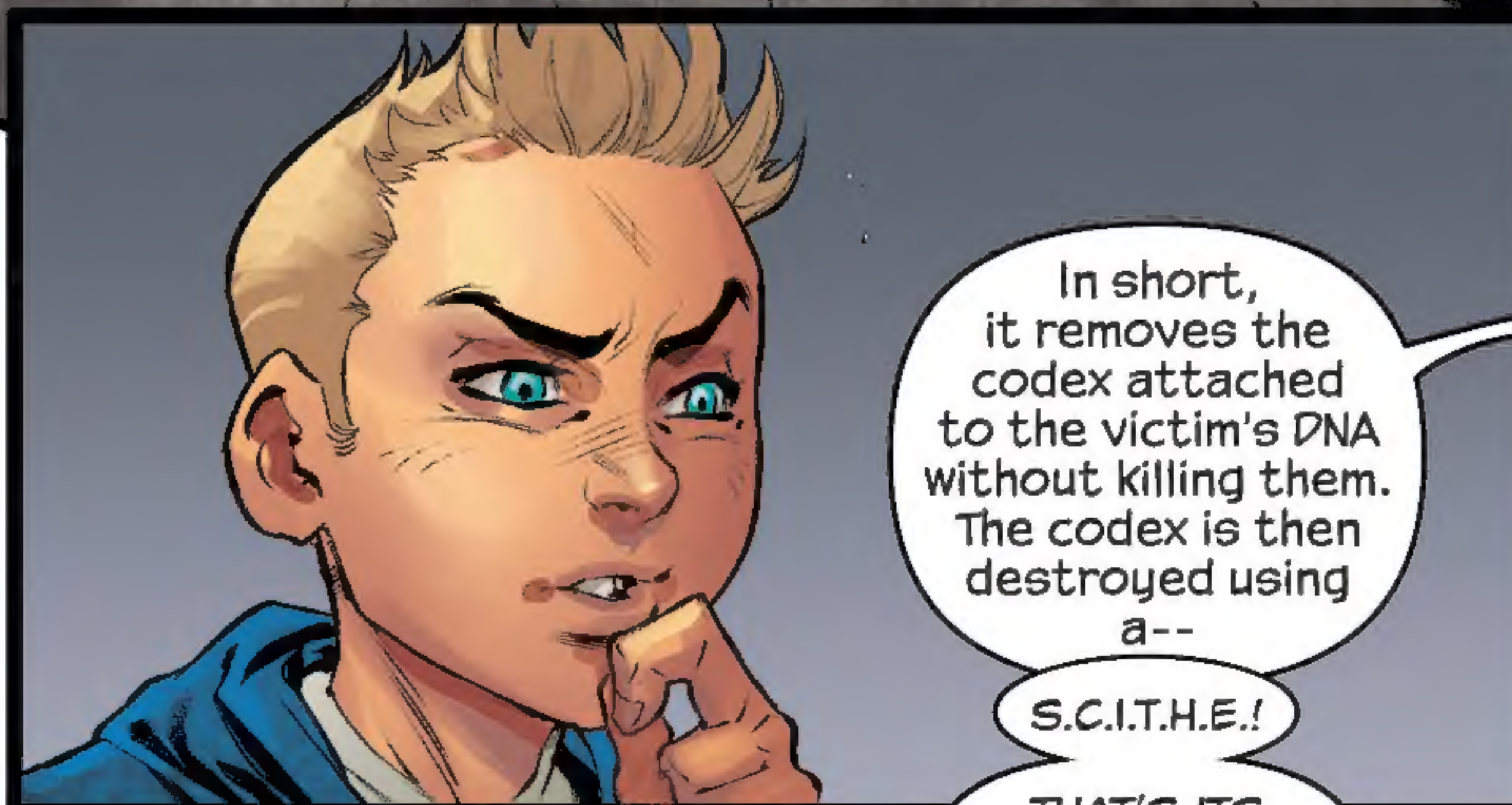
There.
All
better.

Now,
come here,
children.



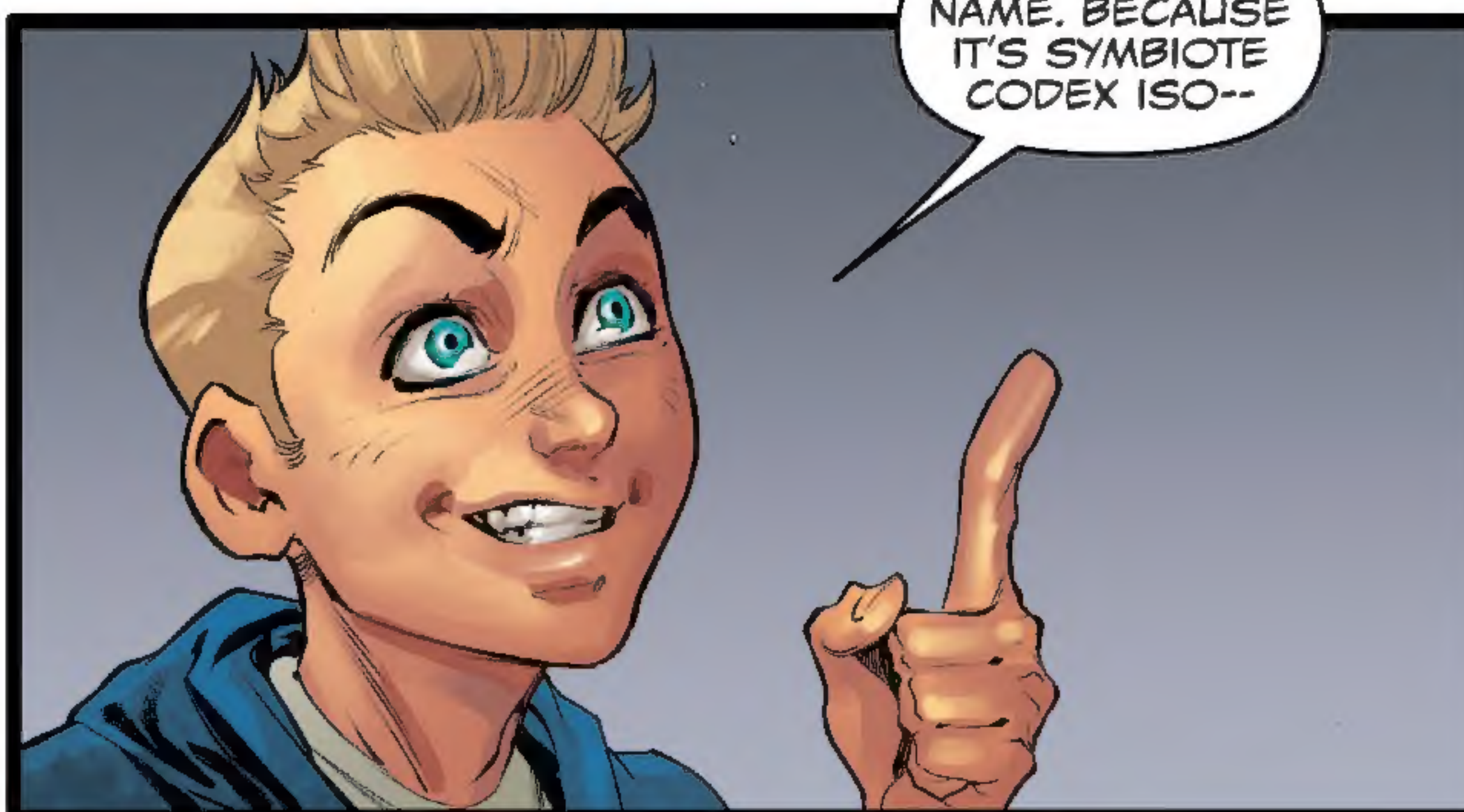
This...is
a...well, I don't
suppose it has
a name yet.

But
essentially it
performs a symbiote
codex isolation and
thermo-heated
extraction
process.



S.C.I.T.H.E.!

THAT'S ITS
NAME, BECAUSE
IT'S SYMBIOTE
CODEX ISO--



Acronyms
are for children
and comic
books.

Machines
don't need
names.





Okay,
it's
time.

You.
Osborn
child.



You're
first.



HEY, NO. EDDIE
AND SPIDER-MAN
SAID THEY DIDN'T WANT
NORMIE GOING INTO
THE MACHINE UNTIL
THEY TESTED IT
FIRST!



And what
if they do not
return?

What if
Cletus Kasady is
on his way here right
now? Hunting for anyone
with a codex wrapped
around their
spine?

I, myself,
would not want
the life of an innocent
child weighing on
my soul.

Now,
shall we--

NO!
YOU'RE
A @#%&!#
CREEP AND
I SAID
NO!

YOU
WANT NORMIE,
YOU'LL HAVE TO
GO THROUGH
ME.



A comic book page featuring Spider-Man and Venom. In the top left, Spider-Man is seen from behind, walking away from two boys in a hallway. Venom is in the center, with a large close-up of his face showing a menacing expression. In the top right, a boy with blonde hair and a blue hoodie is running towards the viewer with a determined look. In the bottom right, the same boy and another boy are running away from the viewer. The background shows a hallway with a tiled floor and some debris.

I am not accustomed to being threatened by anyone, boy.

Especially when I am trying so desperately to save them.

Now, stand aside or--

OR WHAT? YOU HAVE TO EXPLAIN TO SPIDER-MAN AND VENOM HOW YOU HURT TWO LITTLE KIDS TO DO SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS ON THEM?

HOW DO YOU SEE THAT GOING?

FOR SOMEONE SO SMART, YOU REALLY ARE PRETTY STUPID, YOU KNOW THAT?

Hmmmm.

You really are just like your--

**BWWAAMP
BWWAAMP
BWWAAMP**

Mmm?

Proximity alarms. What could--



BOOM!

HELLO,
GOBLIN
CHILD.



Ah. You must be the Life Foundation Symbiotes I've heard so little about.

Dylan, Normie, get behind me.

YOU THINK YOU CAN PROTECT THEM?

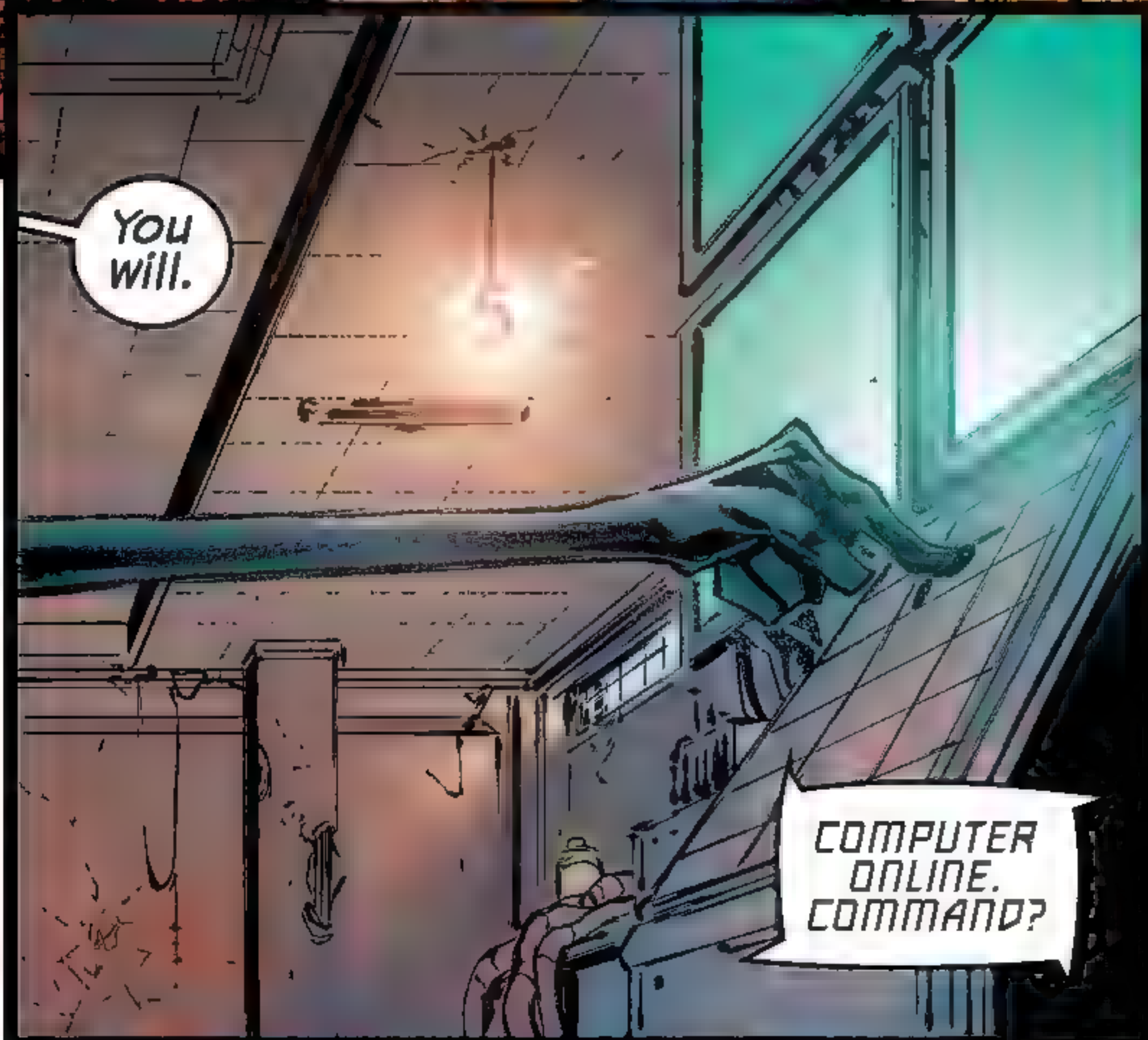
WE DON'T KNOW YOU, SCIENTIST, BUT WE WILL HAPPILY RIP OUT YOUR HEART FOR STANDING IN OUR WAY!



Oh.

You don't know me.

Hmphf.

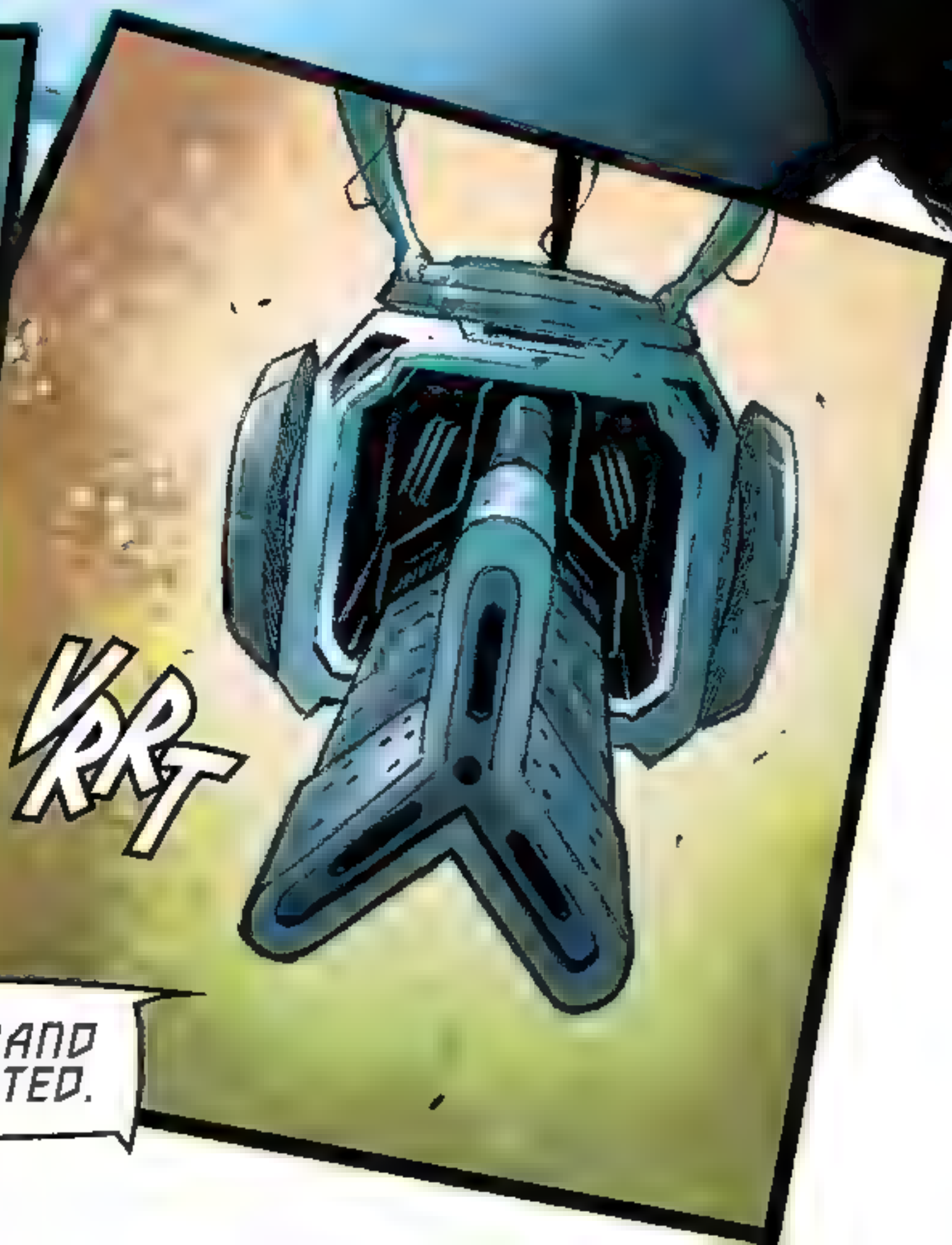
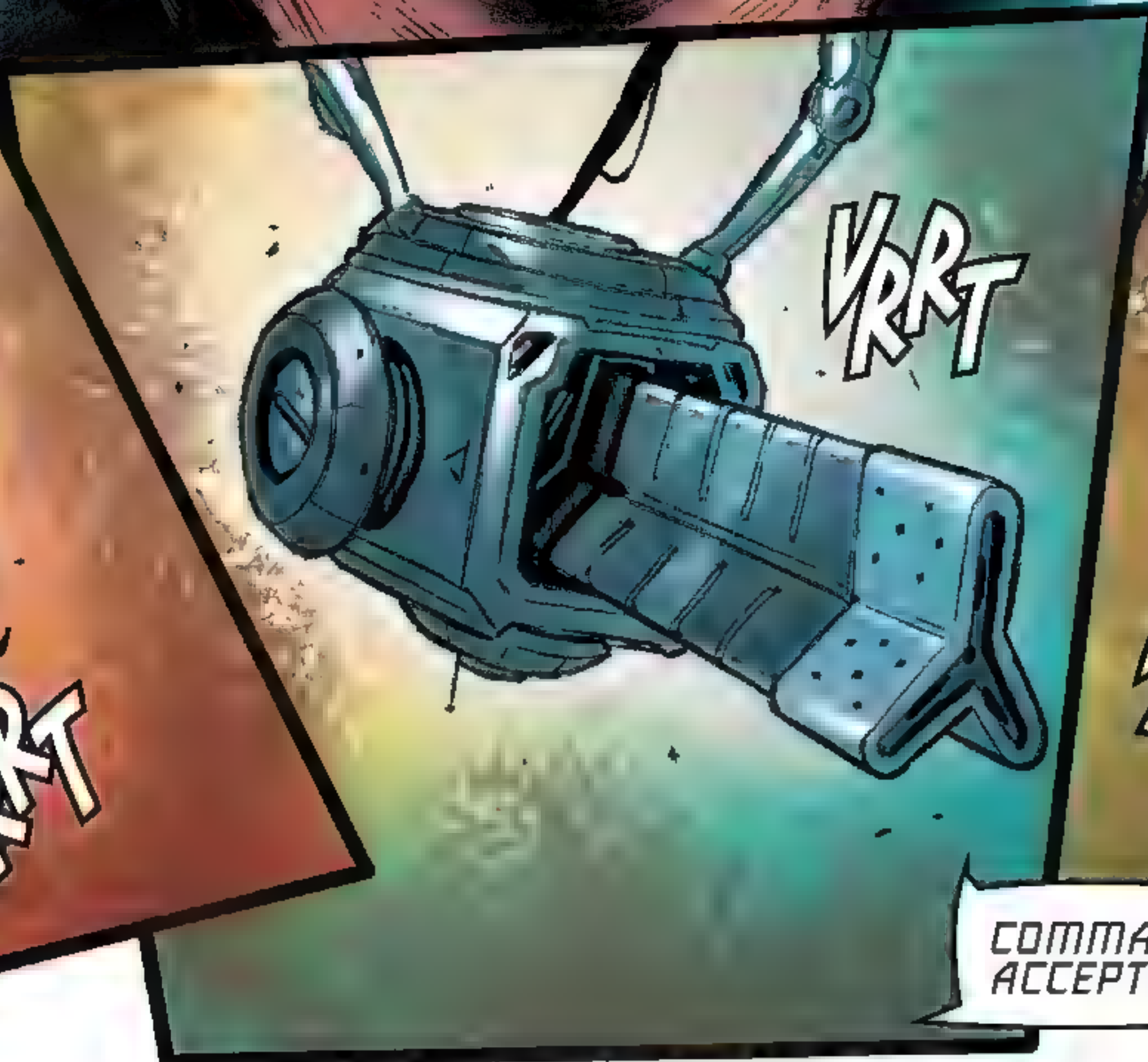


You will.

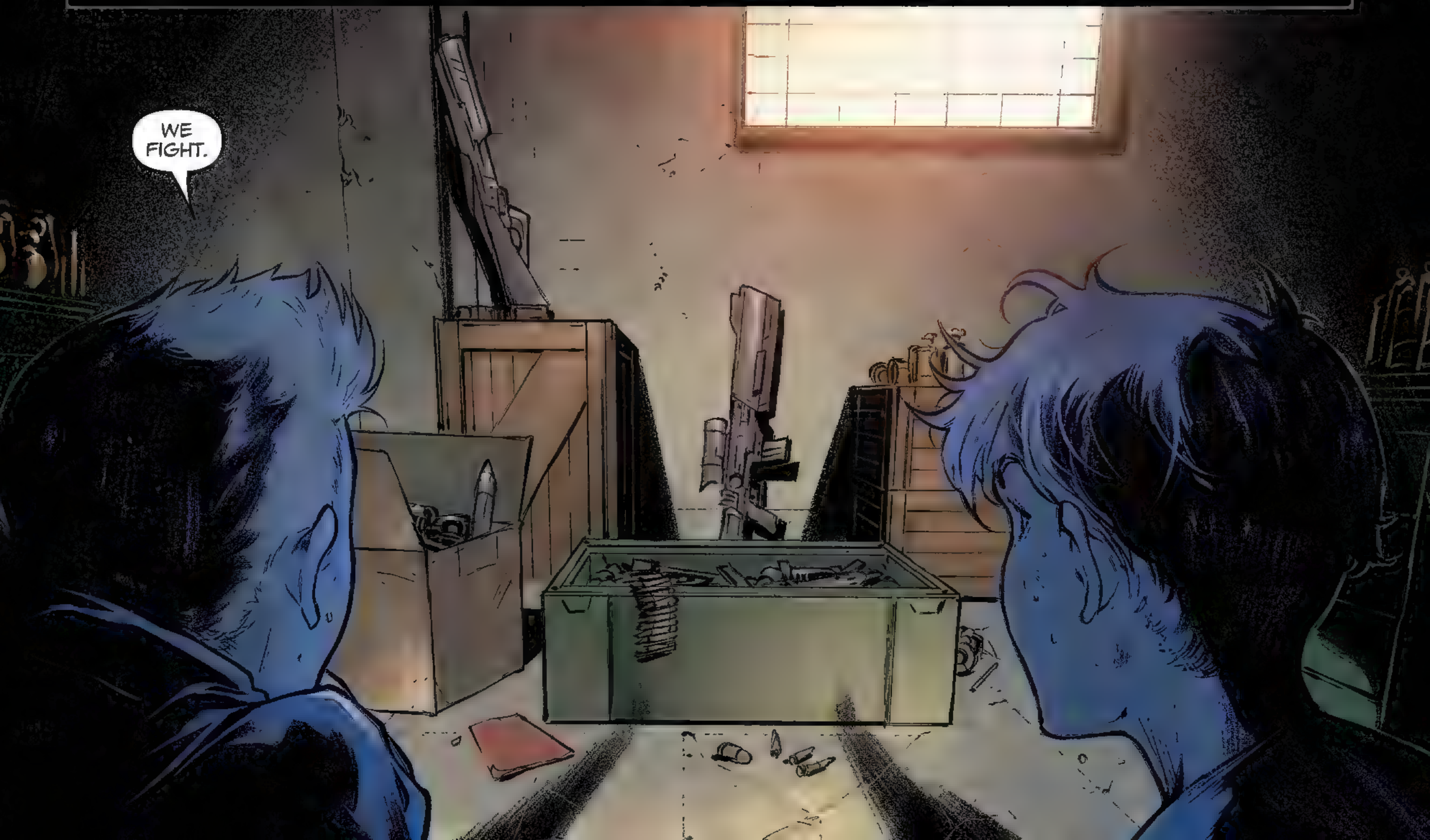
COMPUTER ONLINE. COMMAND?

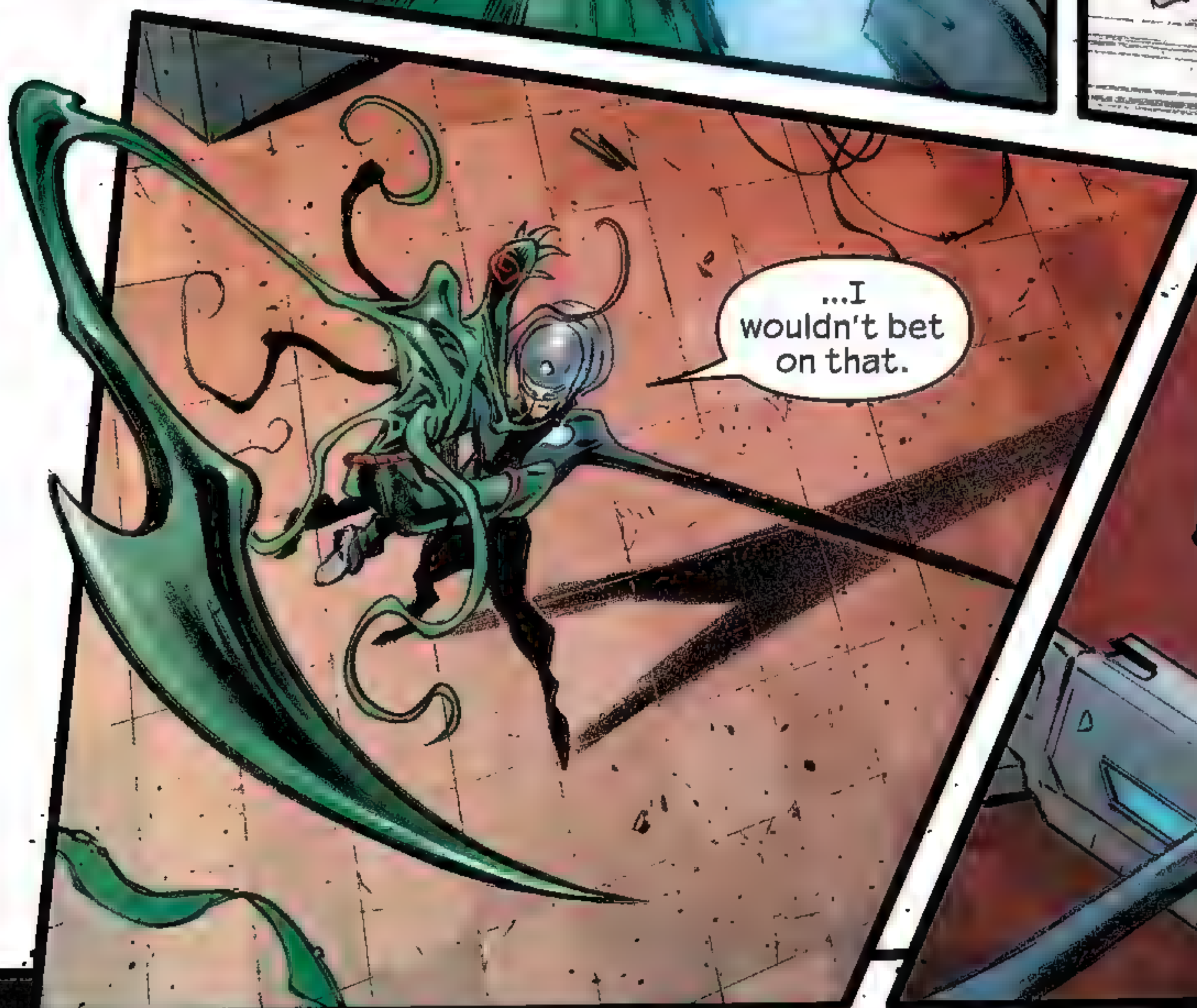
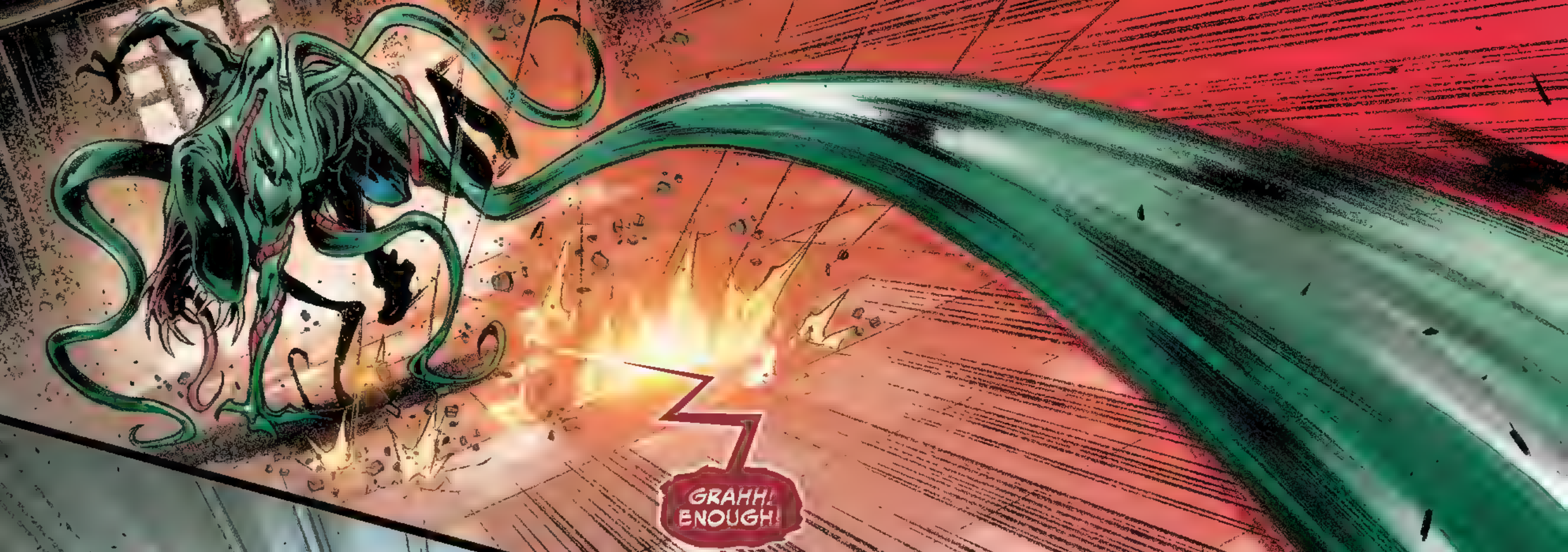


Kill all symbiotes.

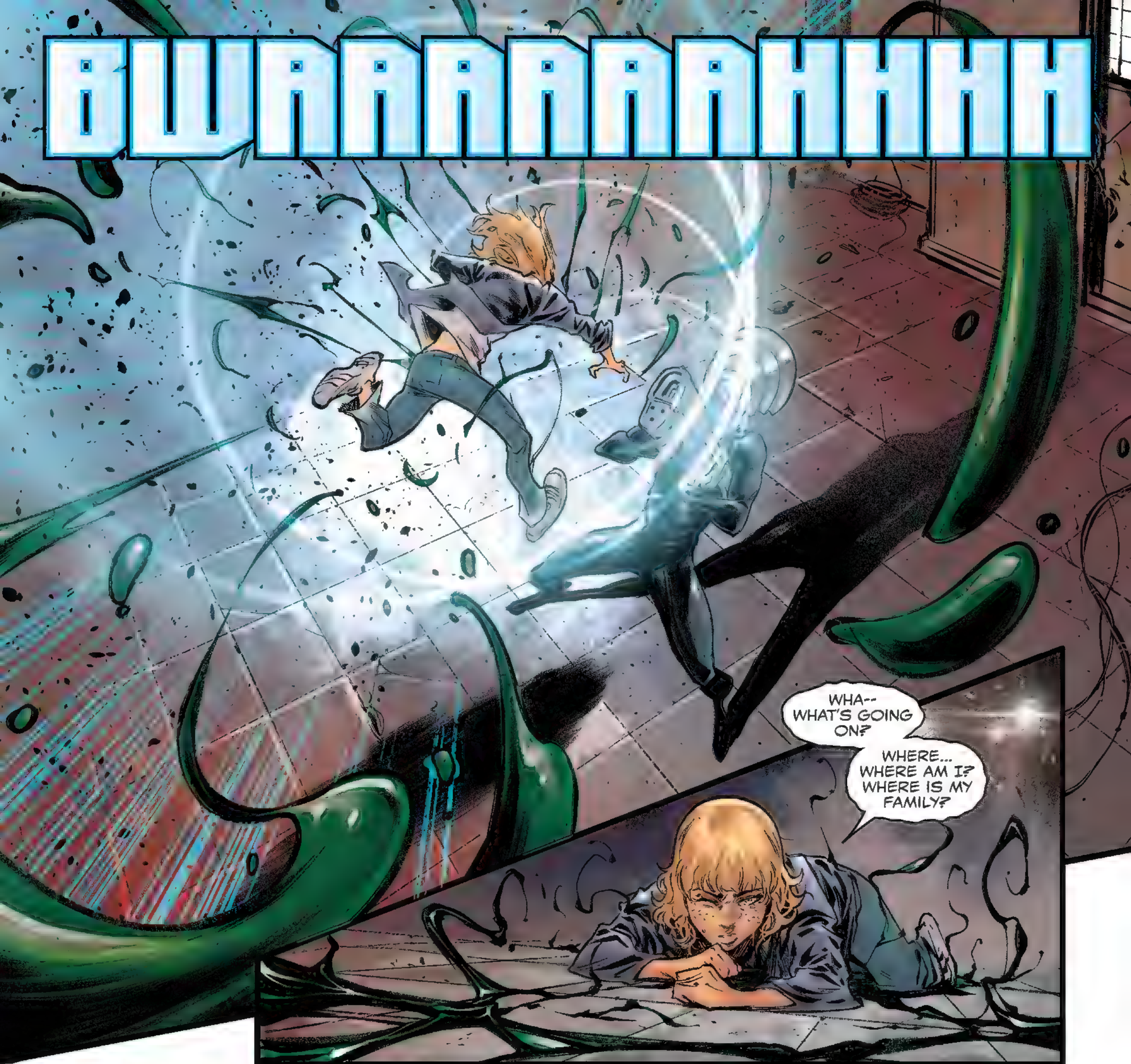


COMMAND ACCEPTED.





SWAAAAAAAAHHHH

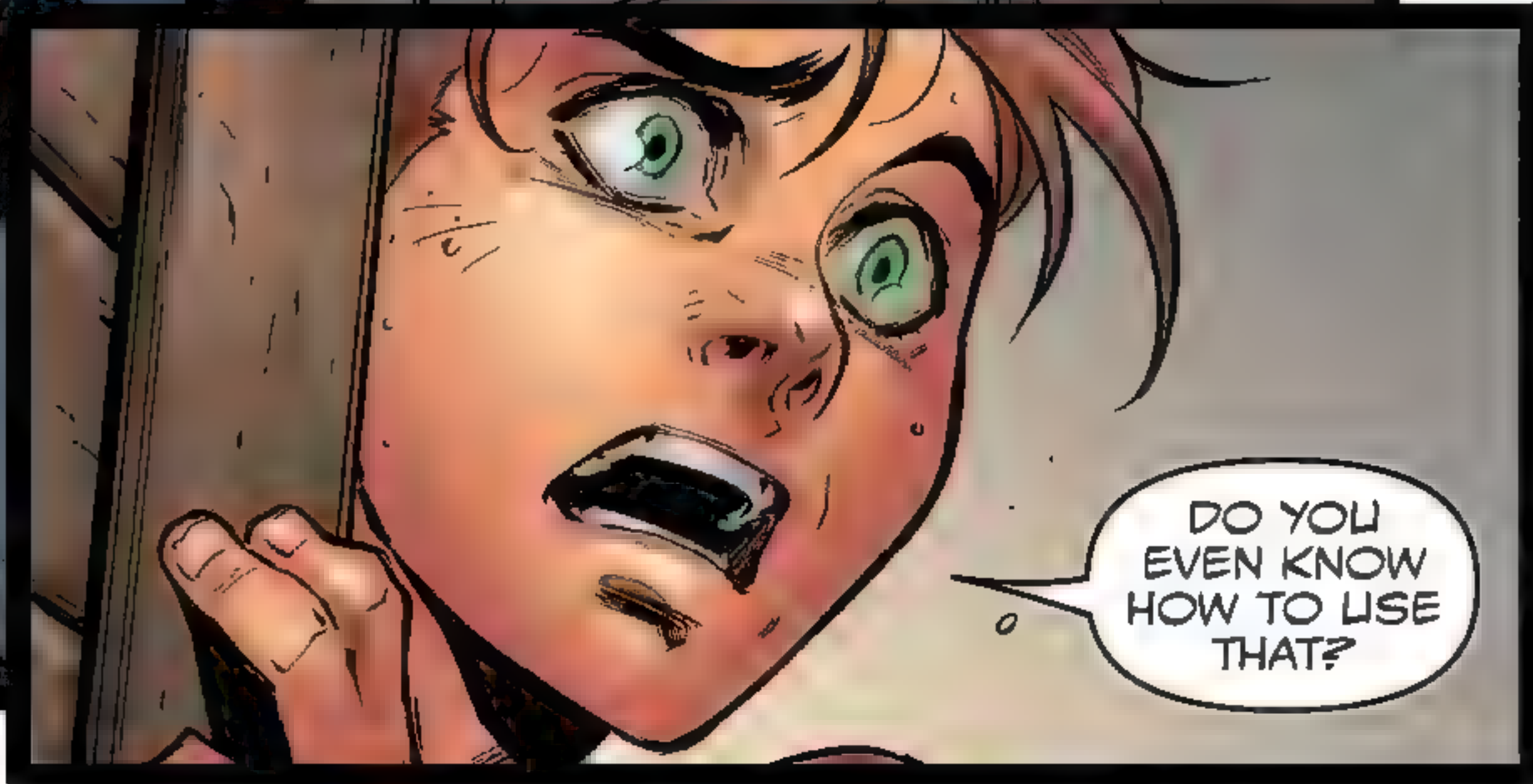




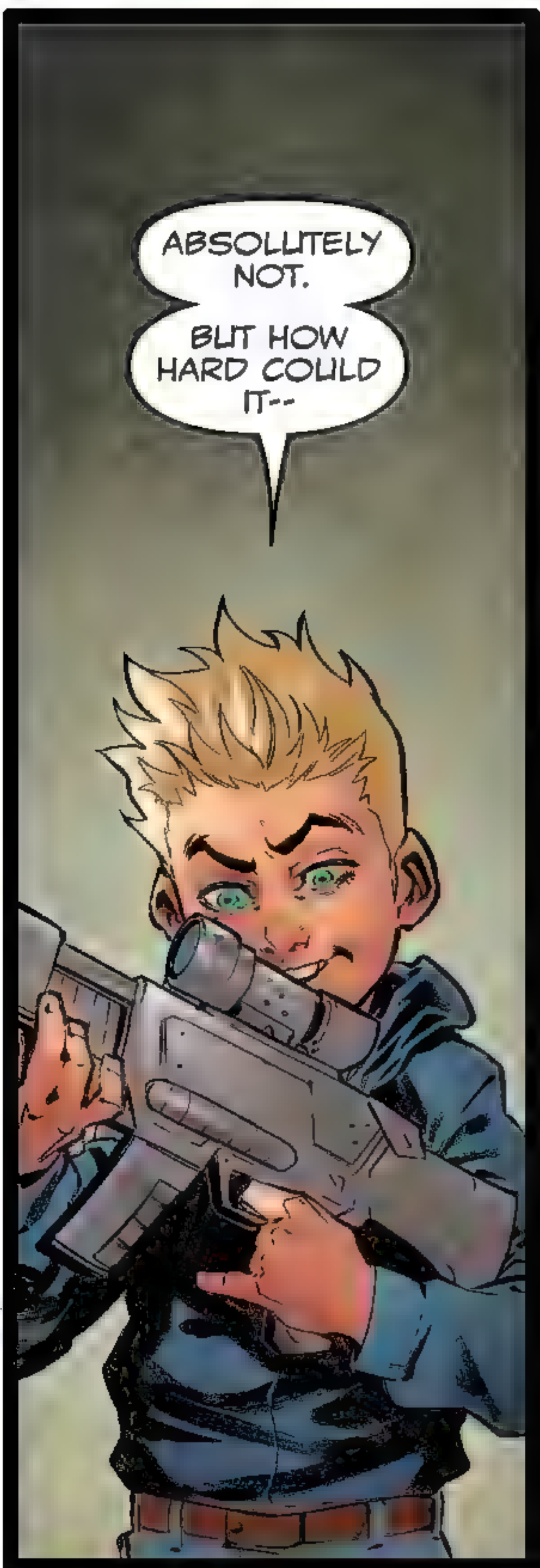


JUST
STAY DOWN,
NORMIE.

IF
ANYTHING
COMES THROUGH
THERE...I'LL
HANDLE
IT.



DO YOU
EVEN KNOW
HOW TO USE
THAT?

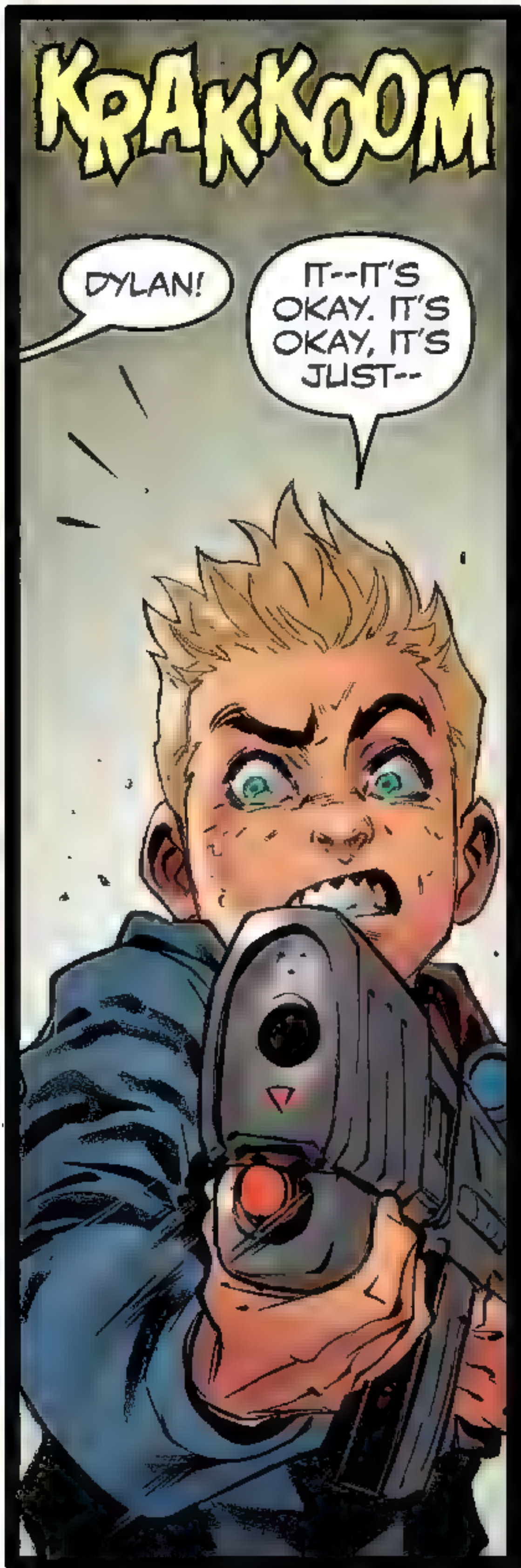


ABSOLUTELY
NOT.

BUT HOW
HARD COULD
IT--



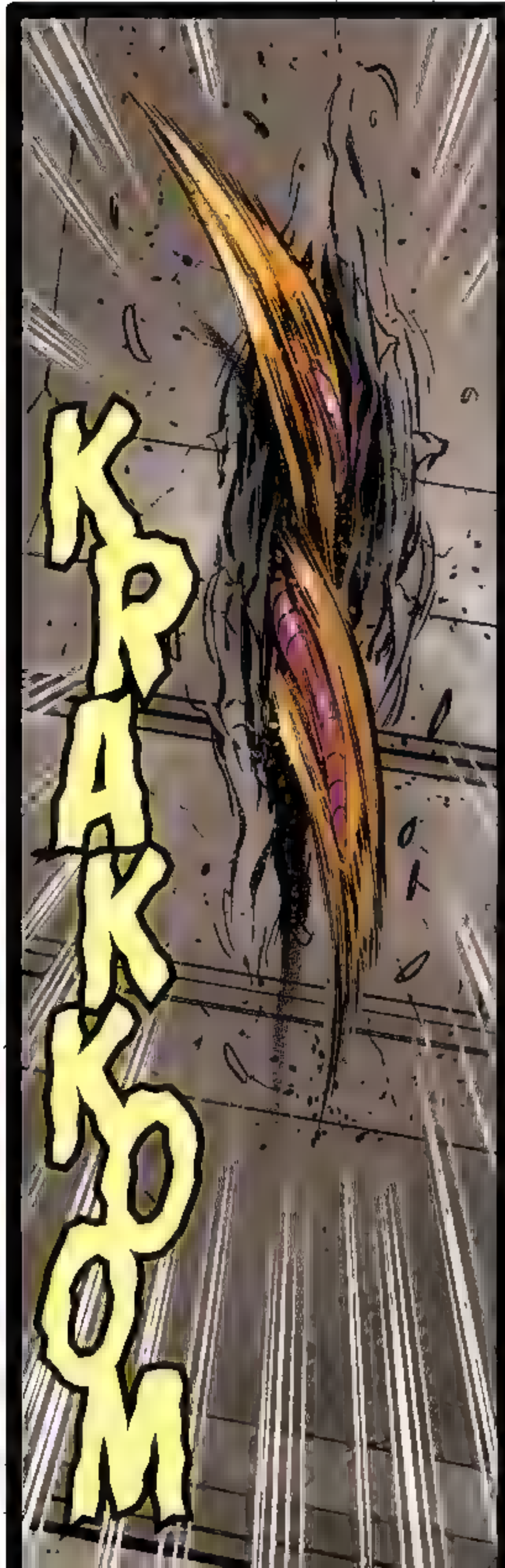
KRAKKOOM



KRAKKOOM

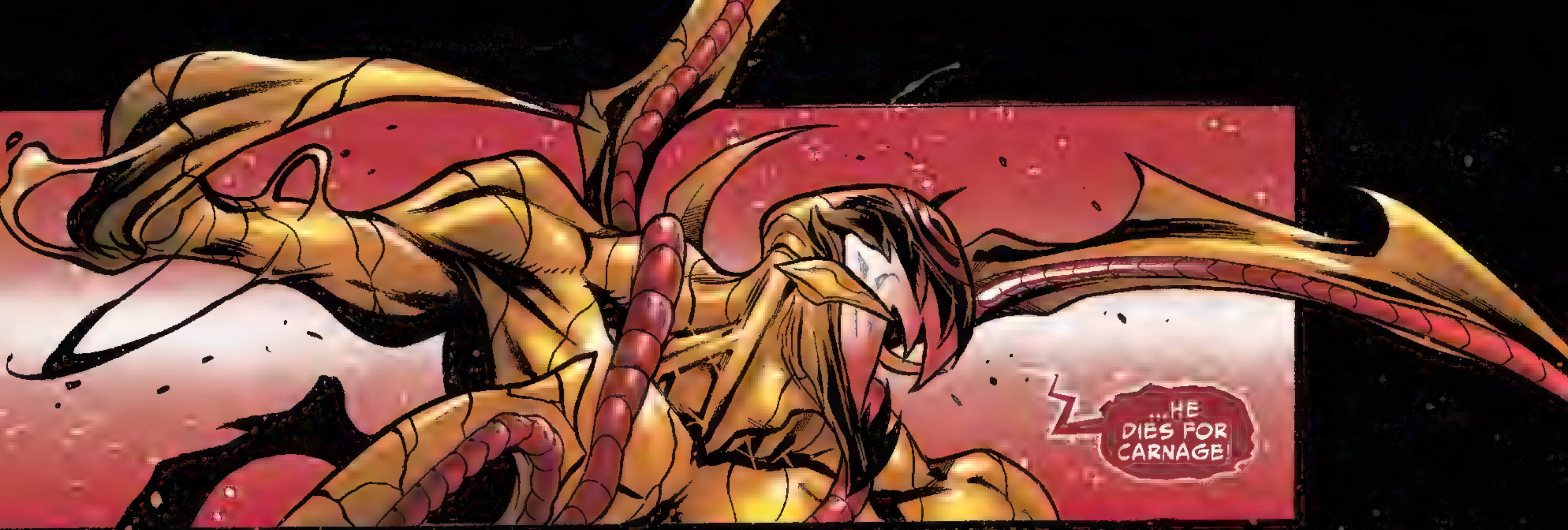
DYLAN!

IT--IT'S
OKAY. IT'S
OKAY, IT'S
JUST--



KRAKKOOM







MY
NAME IS
SLEEPER.

YOU
CAN TRUST
ME.

I'M
FAMILY.



TO BE CONTINUED...



CLETUS' Clubhouse

DANNY KHAZEM
ASSISTANT EDITOR

DEVIN LEWIS **NICK LOWE**
EDITOR EXECUTIVE EDITOR

C.B. CEBULSKI
EDITOR IN CHIEF

JOE QUESADA
CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

DAN BUCKLEY
PRESIDENT

ALAN FINE
EXEC. PRODUCER

SEND EMAILS TO SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM (PLEASE MARK "OKAY TO PRINT"!)

Hello, Venomaniacs, and welcome to another installment of Cletus' Clubhouse!

And, unless you've been living under a rock, you already know that it's the summer of slaughter as **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** continues.

If you're picking this issue up, you've probably been keeping up with the main event of the series—but if you haven't, **GO BUY IT AND READ IT NOW! RIGHT NOW!** You're probably terribly confused!

Are you all caught up? **GOOD!**

At the time of this writing, **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #1 and #2 and **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SEPARATION ANXIETY** #1 have been sent to the printer but aren't on sale in comic shops yet! So we don't have any letters from you symbiotic superfans out there in Mighty Marveldom yet to flesh out this very letters page. **BUT YOU CAN FIX THAT!** Got a bone to pick about continuity? Drop us a line at SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM and mark it "OKAY TO PRINT," and it may wind up in our next issue!

ITEM: Fortunately, for yours truly, there's no shortage of **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** news to share,

including some about this very comics mag!

This event is a love letter to all the Venom stories that have come before—a violent, scary love letter from a bloodthirsty extraterrestrial, but a love letter just the same.

But it's not enough for Donny and Ryan, with JP and Frank, to wax nostalgic. No way. This is a team of creators who are **DEDICATED** to bringing you as many scares and uncomfortable squirms that they can muster—and as you've seen for yourself, that's a lot.

If you thought what happened to Miles and Scorpion was bad, you may not be ready for what comes next!



ITEM: But amongst all the terror and action, we're also looking to **EXPAND** the Marvel Mythos wherever we can, and we've been lucky enough to expand the **VENOM** family with this event!

We knew from the beginning that we wanted Miles Morales to play a big part in **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE**. He and Venom have history, and he came face-to-face with Knull in Donny and Ryan's opening arc.

And the only man for bringing that story to life is Saladin Ahmed, the Eisner-winning writer of the ongoing Miles Morales series! Saladin obviously writes a great Miles/Spider-Man, but it's the way he writes Mac Gargan that **REALLY** excited me about being able to bring him into the fold of the event.

I dunno about you, but reading the script, I found Saladin's take on Mac **TERRIFYING**. It's not every day that you can reinvigorate a character who's been through so much as Mac, but here Saladin is, making him a bloodthirsty killer—and I'm **HERE** for it.

But comics are an illustrated medium, and for this series, we were lucky enough to be joined by Federico Vincentini, doing his first work for Marvel. This may be

his debut, but you'd never know it looking at Federico's pages. His work has a real energy and kineticism to it, and I can't wait for you to see what he's done in issue #2...!

Add in series editor Kathleen Wisneski, who knows the Spider-World inside and out, and you've got a recipe for a story that'll leave you reeling in the best way possible—and it's on sale **RIGHT NOW!**



ITEM: But a story all about Carnage wouldn't be complete without his cronies, and **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS** is all about 'em, and one of the most ruthless books I've ever worked on. The characters are creepy, the monsters are scary and there's a real grim energy to the whole thing.

(Maybe the demonic resurrection has something to do with that?)

When it came time to bring this story to life, we knew Frank Tieri was the only man for the job. The comics equivalent of a soldier of fortune, Frank came in on a chopper and wielding an M16—pitching a story about a mental asylum, a lycan and a whole lot of symbiote goo.

He's a madman, but I think you'll agree he's got the goods.

And so does illustrator Flaviano! Flaviano turned heads on **BLACK WIDOW**, and we knew his violent,

moody sensibilities would breathe terrifying life into Frank's scripts! Just look at that Carnage/Demagoblin kiss—makes my **SKIN CRAWL!**

That's it for us in this one, **Venomaniacs!** Keep your eyes peeled at your local comic shop for the line of **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** tie-ins as the summer of slaughter continues!

And remember: Tell your shop that you want the best, and this summer, the best is **CARNAGE!**
#carnagerules

Stay Sharp,
Devin



ABSOLUTE CARNAGE CHECKLIST

AUGUST

- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #1
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #2
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES** #1
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM** #1
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS** #1
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL** #1
- X **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SEPARATION ANXIETY** #1
- X **VENOM** #17

SEPTEMBER

- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES** #2
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM** #2
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS** #2
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL** #2
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE:**
 GHOST RIDER - SYMBIOTE OF VENGEANCE #1

- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN** #1
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: AVENGERS** #1
- VENOM** #18
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #30

OCTOBER

- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #4
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES** #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM** #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS** #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL** #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: IMMORTAL HULK** #1
- VENOM** #19
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #31

NOVEMBER

- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE** #5
- VENOM** #20

